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REMARKS

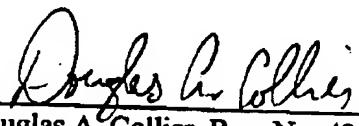
A Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 was mailed on September 22, 2006 asserting that claims 1-19 and 50-65 were pending and subject to restriction and/or election requirement as set forth in the Restriction Requirement. Applicants hereby elect Species A as asserted to be embodied by claims 1 and 61 without traverse.

Claims 1-7, 50-53 and 61-65 read on the elected species of claims 1 and 61 since claims 2-7, 50-53 and 62-65 each depend directly or indirectly from the respective claims 1 and 61, and the implant in Figs. 52-56 to which claims 1-7, 50-53 and 61-65 are directed is disclosed as including the features recited in each of these claims. Furthermore, new claims 66-70 are readable on Species A.

In the amendment filed with this response, claims 15-49 are cancelled and new claims 66-70 are added. Claim 66 is a linking claim that links the "species" A and B. Therefore, all pending claims 1-14 and 50-70 are believed to be entitled to examination in the present application.

Further consideration of the present application in view of the foregoing election is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Response to Restriction Requirement
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